

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 2-10 and 12-14 without prejudice or disclaimer.

1. - 14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously Amended) A recording medium for recording a contract processing program for enabling a contract processing system to execute a contract process for processing a contract for provision of a commodity or service, wherein said contract process comprises:

a process for creating contract data containing said contract content and a negotiating ID determined between concerned parties on said contract;

a process for retrieving, using said negotiating ID as a key, description data corresponding to said contract data from multiple description data containing a description content about said commodity or service having been transferred between the concerned parties about said contract before concluding said contract;

a process for inserting a data string determined with regard to said retrieved description data in said contract data; and

a process for appending an electronic signature of at least one of said concerned parties to said contract data containing said data string.

16. (Previously Presented) A recording medium as claimed in claim 15, wherein said process for inserting said data string is executed to insert said retrieved description data in said contract data as said data string.

17. (Previously Presented) A recording medium as claimed in claim 15, wherein said process for inserting said data string is executed to calculate a hash value of said retrieved description data and to insert the hash value of said description data in said contract data as said data string.

18. (Original) A recording medium as claimed in claim 15, wherein said contracting process includes a process for determining whether or not either of the electronic signatures of said concerned parties added to said description data is correct and a process for adding the electronic signature of the other concerned party to said description data if the electronic signature of one of said concerned parties added to said description data is determined to be correct.

19. (Previously Presented) A recording medium as claimed in claim 15, wherein said contracting process further includes a process for describing said contract content on an electronic contract document on said contract and a process for inserting a data string determined with regard to a describing program for executing said describing process in said contract data.

20. (Previously Presented) A recording medium as claimed in claim 15, wherein said contracting process further includes a process for inserting a contract content display template for creating from said contract content a contract content display data to be outputted to an output unit in said contract data.

21. (Previously Amended) A recording medium as claimed in claim 15, wherein said process for appending a signature on said contract data is executed to append said electronic signature on said contract data if a permission for appending said electronic signature to said contract data is received.

22. - 28. (Canceled)

29. (Previously Presented) A method for processing a contract for provision of a commodity or service, comprising the steps of:

creating contract data containing said contract content and a negotiating ID determined between concerned parties on said contract;

retrieving, using said negotiating ID as a key, description data corresponding to said contract data from multiple description data containing a description content about said commodity or service having been transferred between the concerned parties about said contract before concluding said contract;

inserting a data string determined with regard to said retrieved description data in said contract data; and

appending an electronic signature of at least one of said concerned parties to said contract data containing said data string.

30. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein said step of inserting said data string inserts said retrieved description data in said contract data as said data string.

31. (Previously Presented) A method as claims in claim 29, wherein said step of inserting said data string calculates a hash value of said retrieved description data and inserts the hash value of said description data in said contract data as said data string.

32. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 29, further comprising the step of determining whether or not either of the electronic signatures of said concerned parties appended to said description data is correct, and

wherein said step of appending an electronic signature appends the electronic signature of the other concerned party to said description data if the electronic signature of one of said concerned parties appended to said description data is determined to be correct.

33. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 29, further comprising the steps of:

describing said contract content on an electronic contract document on said contract; and

inserting a data string determined with regard to a describing program for executing said describing process in said contract data.

34. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 29, further comprising the step of inserting a contract content display template for creating from said contract content a contract content display data to be outputted to an output unit in said contract data.

35. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein said step of appending a signature appends said electronic signature on said contract data if a permission for appending said electronic signature to said contract data is received.

36. (Previously Presented) A system for processing a contract for provision of a commodity or service, comprising:

a module for creating contract data containing said contract content and a negotiating ID determined between concerned parties on said contract;

a module for retrieving, using said negotiating ID as a key, description data corresponding to said contract data from

multiple description data containing a description content about said commodity or service having been transferred between the concerned parties about said contract before concluding said contract;

a module for inserting a data string determined with regard to said retrieved description data in said contract data; and

a module for appending an electronic signature of at least one of said concerned parties to said contract data containing said data string.

37. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 36, wherein said module for inserting said data string inserts said retrieved description data in said contract data as said data string.

38. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 36, wherein said module for inserting said data string calculates a hash value of said retrieved description data and inserts the hash value of said description data in said contract data as said data string.

39. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 36, further comprising:

a module for determining whether or not either of the electronic signatures of said concerned parties added to said description data is correct; and

a module for appending the electronic signature of the other concerned party to said description data if the electronic signature of one of said concerned parties appended to said description data is determined to be correct.

40. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 36, further comprising:

a module for describing said contract content on an electronic contract document on said contract; and

a module for inserting a data string determined with regard to a describing program for executing said describing process in said contract data.

41. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 36, further comprising a module for inserting a contract content display template for creating from said contract content a contract content display data to be outputted to an output unit in said contract data.

42. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 36, wherein said module for appending a signature on said contract data appends said electronic signature on said contract data if a permission for appending said electronic signature to said contract data is received.